FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 AUGUST 1986

Israel

Aftermath of USSR Talks — The Israeli Foreign Ministry expressed "satisfaction" with the Israeli-Soviet talks held 18 August in Helsinki, IDF radio reported. In an interview with the same radio, the Israeli delegation spokesman stated that the talks were conducted in a "candid and correct" atmosphere, adding that the delegations agreed to continue contacts through appropriate diplomatic channels. The spokesman declined to comment on whether reciprocal visits by delegations to the respective countries would be held. The goal of the talks was to place permanent officials in third-country embassies in Tel Aviv and Moscow currently representing the two countries' interests, according to a report by Jerusalem radio's Washington correspondent. Another report by the same radio stated that both sides asked to be allowed to send a delegation for a 3-month term only. Both delegations would concern themselves with tending government property and problems of passport and visa holders in each other's country, the radio continued.

The talks ended more or less the way Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir anticipated, he stated in an interview with Jerusalem television. Shamir said Israel made it clear to the Soviets that bilateral talks cannot be held without discussing the most essential problem, that of Soviet Jews. Although October would probably be too early for a visit by delegations from each country, Shamir continued, an eventual exchange of delegations will take place. Regarding such an exchange however, Shamir said Israel will demand that Israeli representatives be allowed to visit Moscow as a condition for allowing Soviet officials to visit Israel, Jerusalem radio reported.

Soviet Comment — The head of the Soviet delegation told a Helsinki newspaper that the talks were conducted in a "matter-of-fact and constructive" atmosphere, Jerusalem radio disclosed. Monitored Soviet media have not been observed to report or comment on the talks.

Rabin on Syria, MiG-29's — Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told Jerusalem radio there is no evidence that Syria has received Soviet MiG-29 aircraft, although Syrian pilots are currently training on MiG-29's in the Soviet Union. Syria is making a real effort to increase its chemical warfare capabilities, he added.

Egyptian Summit Preparations — The director general of the Prime Minister's Office departed for Cairo, where he will prepare the summit meeting between Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and President Husni Mubarak, Jerusalem radio reported.

Iran

Car Bomb in Tehran — A 19 August car bomb in Tehran set by "American agents" killed 20 people and injured several others, Tehran radio announced.

Oil Minister in Moscow — The Iranian oil minister arrived for talks in Moscow 18 August, IRNA reported.

Pakistan

Demonstrations against the ban on political rallies have resulted in law and order problems throughout the whole of Sind province, according to an "official statement" reported by Karachi radio. The statement added that "miscreants" set fire to facilities and tried to create disturbances in several areas. One location specified in the statement was described by AFP as a stronghold of Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party.

Lebanon

Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt called for the resumption of Christian-Druze coexistence, in an interview reported by Voice of Lebanon radio. Junblatt promised that his party would stop attacking the Lebanese Government, according to the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, which later reported former president Camille Sham'un's evaluation of Junblatt's remarks as "extremely important" both for an agreement in Lebanon and for Christian-Druze relations in general.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said the recent Turkish Air Force attack inside Iraq against Kurds "greatly angered" him and was "not acceptable," in a message he sent to the Turkish leadership reported by Tripoli radio. The attack against the Kurds represents a "shameful and unprecedented collusion with the Iraqi Government," the message continued.

Sudan

SPLA on Downed Plane — The SPLA's clandestine radio reported a message of congratulations sent by an SPLA officer to Colonel John Garang on the 16 August downing of a Sudanese passenger flight. Blame for the incident rests squarely on the shoulders of the Sudanese Government, which turned a deaf ear to the SPLA's initial warnings, the message stated.

Coup Rumor Denial — The Sudanese director of central intelligence denied rumors of a coup attempted 14 August in Khartoum, MENA reported.

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South Asia

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Najibullah, Karmal, Dost Receive New USSR Envoy

LD182039 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, received this afternoon Pavel Petrovich Mozhayev, ambassador and representative extraordinary of the Soviet Union, for a courtesy call at the headquarters of the PDPA Central Committee.

Comrade Babrak Karmal, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, today at 1200 received Pavel Mozhayev, elected ambassador and representative extraordinary of the USSR to the DRA, for the presentation of his credentials at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council.

Shah Muhammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs, and Sakhi Daneshjo, adviser and acting head of the Protocol Department of that ministry, were present during the presentation of credentials.

Message Sent in Reply to Soviet Congratulations

LD182046 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] Kabul, *Bakhtar*, 27 Asad — The PDPA, the DRA Presidium of the Revolutionary Council, and the DRA Council of Ministers have sent a message of thanks to Moscow to Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, chairman of the Presidium of USSR Supreme Soviet; and Comrade Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, in reply to their message of congratulations on the occasion of 67th anniversary of Afghanistan's restoration of independence as follows:

Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the USSR; and Comrade Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

Dear Comrades: We convey to you our cordial thanks and appreciation, on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, Revolutionary Council, the DRA Government and people of Afghanistan, for your warm congratulations on the occasion of our national festival celebrating the restoration of Afghanistan's independence.

The freedom-loving people of Afghanistan 67 years ago overcame the foreign colonialists in the heroic and self-sacrificing struggle and defended their freedom and independence. This victory contributed to the consolidation of Afghanistan's national sovereignty and played an important part in other Asian nations' struggle for national independence.

We will never forget that the Soviet Union, under the leadership of the great Lenin, was the first country to officially recognize Afghanistan's independence, extend the hand of friendship, and establish relations based on the principles of equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs, as well as fruitful and mutually beneficial cooperation. These Leninist principles of peaceful coexistance constitute the strong and unshakable pillars of good-neighborliness which continuously, through history, expand and become firmer in the interest of our people.

After the victory of the Sawr revolution these relations were transformed into fraternal friendly relations and revolutionary solidarity and powerful momentum has been provided.

The people of Afghanistan express heart-felt thanks for the assistance rendered by the Soviet Union to our country in the struggle against imperialism's aggression and for the all-round help in the development of our country's national economy.

We are profoundly thankful for your support to the policies that the PDPA and the DRA Government are implementing with the aim of reaching national reconciliation, ensuring peace and tranquillity in the country and expanding the social pillars of our revolution and the participation of all progressive and patriotic forces of Afghan society in the process of building a new and democratic Afghanistan.

We warmly support the recent speech by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at Vladivostok on Afghanistan and regard this speech as another confirmation of the fraternal and internationalist solidarity between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. We welcome and confirm the new initiative of the Soviet Union on establishing an international security system in Asia and the Pacific Ocean, another example of the Soviet Union's consistent policy of peace.

We wish great and further success to the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Union Supreme Council, the Soviet Government and you, dear comrades, in your indefatigable activities for the welfare and prosperity of the Soviet people and consolidation of peace and security on our planet.

[Signed] The PDPA Central Committee
The DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium
The DRA Council of Ministers

Defense Minister Meets Socialist Military Delegations

LD182105 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] Comrade Major General Nazar Muhammad, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA defense minister, this morning met the military delegations from the Soviet Union, the Socialist Republic of Romania, and the Polish People's Republic at the Ministry of Defense. The military delegations have come to Kabul to participate in the celebration of the 67th anniversary of the restoration of political independence and DRA Army Day. During these meetings talks were held on subjects of mutual interest.

The military delegations of the friendly countries, Poland and Romania, arrived in Kabul this morning. A number of members of the leadership of the DRA Defense Ministry welcomed the delegations at Kabul airport.

NEW TIMES Reveals U.S., CIA 'Hostile' Attitide

LD170558 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0420 GMT 17 Aug 86

[Text] Kabul, August 15, *Bakhtar* — The propaganda machinery of reaction and imperialism concentrated its activities in preparing the ground for launching armed encroachments against the DRA and mobilizing the counter-revolutionary bands since the very dawn of the April Revolution, writes daily *Kabul New Times*.

The hostile attitude of the USA the daily added against April Revolution was quite obvious from the very beginning.

As it was impossible to carry on the war without Pakistan, the US imperialism paid due attention to transforming Pakistan into a springboard of interference and aggression against the DRA.

The daily adds that Luise Dupree, heading a CIA expert group, set up a board of Afghan counter-revolutionaries in Pakistan to supervise the launching of the undeclared war against Afghanistan. This group, making use of terrorists and professional criminals mobilized and organized those extreme elements, who had fled Afghanistan prior to the revolution, as well as those who gave a positive response to the appeal of reaction and imperialism after the revolution.

On January 18, 1979, the CIA organized a conference in Lahore, Pakistan, which was attended by the five ringleaders of the Afghan counter-revolutionary band, the daily pointed out.

The reactionary circles of Pakistan held a session with the participation of General Ziaul Haq in Lahore to demonstrate their active hostility in accordance with the imperialist dictates against revolutionary Afghanistan.

After a short while, the session of foreign ministers of CENTO member countries took place in Ankara to define the method of confronting the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan labelling the April Revolution a source of "danger" to both Pakistan and Iran. Abiding by this policy of CENTO, the Pakistan military council elevated confrontation and active hostility against the DRA to the level of its official policy and approved the guidelines of an aggressive plan against the DRA in one of its extraordinary sessions.

The Pakistani journalist writes further that during the session, two generals even put forward the proposal of launching an immediate military attack on Afghanistan and establishing their puppet government there. But this proposal he added was turned down by the others on the ground that it was immature. They decided that first of all the ground should be paved for the successful realization of such a plan.

General Zia in person played significant role in dishing out and defining a smear campaign of psychological war against the DRA. The task of the imperialist propaganda campaign, which began after the very inception of the April Revolution was quite clear, the daily concluded.

Gandhi Lauds Armed Forces on Independence Day

BK151640 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Aug 86

[Text] In a broadcast to the Armed Forces, the prime minister asked them to meet the challenge posed by the forces of disruption which are undermining the confidence of the nation and spreading hatred. Mr Gandhi said these forces always try to pull the country down whenever it becomes stronger and raises its independent voice in international forums. Today a great pressure is sought to be exercised on India and the country is passing through a delicate period. The Armed Forces have to redeem their pledge to safeguard its unity and integrity.

Speaking as the country's defense minister, Mr Gandhi said the Indian soldier is the best in the world. The Armed Forces have guarded the country's freedom during the past 40 years. They are the symbol of India's unity and integrity and the country's pride.

Mr Gandhi said it is government's efforts to provide the Armed Forces with more modern weapons, better training and greater facilities. The welfare schemes will be speedily implemented. Government is thinking of appointing a special committee to look into the question of their pay scales, pension, especially for those wounded in battle. Its recommendations will be promptly implemented. The effort is to ensure that pension is paid on time.

The prime minister disclosed that a division has been created in the Defense Ministry to help ex-servicemen find jobs or engage in self-employment.

He said the people of India are thankful to the Armed Forces and the whole contry is with them.

Air Force To Acquire Latest Soviet Helicopters

BK181639 Hong Kong AFP in English 1621 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 18 (AFP) — India will acquire Soviet-built heavy-lift Mi-26 helicopters, some of the latest Warsaw Pact technology, to augment its Air Force transport fleet, a federal Defence Ministry official said Monday.

The Mi-26, codenamed Halo-7 by Western countries, is considered one of the most powerful helicopters in the world and only became operational with the Soviet Air Force in late 1983, experts said.

"The decision has been taken (to acquire), the details are to be worked out between experts of the two countries," the Defence Ministry official, who asked not to be named, told *Agence France-Presse*.

India is the first country outside the Warsaw Pact nations to be offered the helicopters and its air force has already tested two Mi-26's for their operational capacity, the official said. No details were available on the likely cost and how payment would be made.

Media reports here in July had said that Moscow had agreed to provide India with MiG-29's, the most sophisticated fighter-bomber in the Soviet's arsenal. The Defence Ministry would not confirm or deny the reports.

The 113,000-strong Indian Air Force with 920 combat aircraft is heavily dependent on the Soviet Union for its equipment. However, New Delhi has recently been making efforts to diversify its sources.

Under this plan India signed a deal with France for delivery of 40 Mirage-2000 aircraft from last October onwards. Agreement was reached in mid-March for a further nine Mirages.

The Indian Air Force transport fleet presently consists of Mi-4, Mi-8, and Mi-17 helicopters, besides the fixed-wing An-12, An-32 medium-transport and the Il-71 heavy-transport aircraft.

Experts said the Mi-26, which carries a five-member crew, has a maxiuimum internal payload capacity of 20 tonnes. The helicopter can carry some 70 combat-equipped troops, experts said.

PATRIOT: Soviet Official Marks Treaty Anniversary

BK171016 Delhi PATRIOT in English 9 Aug 86 p 6

[Article by Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers: "Soviet-Indian Treaty: Solid Basis of Equitable Partnership"]

[Text] On August 9 the Soviet and Indian peoples mark the 15th anniversary of the bilateral Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation. The Treaty reflects both sides desire to develop friendly relations and equal partnership. It has become a major legislative act for strengthening Soviet-Indian relations and an important factor of peace. Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, stressed in his speech in Vladivostok that friendly relations between the USSR and India have become a stabilising factor of global importance.

Soviet-Indian relations meet the vital interests of the two nations and steadily develop on the principles of peaceful coexistence, equality, and mutual respect. The USSR and India hold identical or similar stands on topical issues and are loyal to the cause of international peace and security. The USSR highly values India's efforts on the international scene aimed at curbing the arms drive and preserving peace on the planet. India backs the Soviet peace initiatives, including the programme of eliminating all nuclear weapons in the world by the end of the current century, which was set forth in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement of January 15, 1986.

Friendly relations between the USSR and India do not pursue time-serving goals and are not spearheaded against other countries. The USSR has always been a true friend of independent and peace-loving India and wants it to be a powerful, integrated, and prosperous nation. The USSR's attitude to India reflects our consistent support for the struggle against imperialist oppression, for stronger independence and social renovation, emphasised

Mikhail Gorbachev.

From the start, Soviet-Indian Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation has been in line with the policy adopted by the Nehru Government. The aim of this policy was to consolidate India's economic independence by speeding up industrialisation and developing the public sector. Over the past years, dozens of major industrial and energy projects and farms have been built in India within the framework of this cooperation.

The construction is underway of the Vindhyachal Thermal Power Plant with a power line. Its first unit will be made operational by next June. A steel plant is being built in Vishakhapatnam. Its first stage will be put into service in 1988 and it will produce 1.3 million tons of steel annually. Oil prospecting and production is successfully going on in some areas of India.

Soviet and Indian designers are working out a feasibility report for the construction in Andhra Pradesh on a buy-back basis of a bauxite mine with an annual capacity of 2.3 million tons. Experts of the two countries are also going to set up gallium producing workshops and an experimental superior aluminium manufacturing installation at the Korba Aluminium Plant. Soviet organisations are preparing feasibility reports for these projects.

Possibilities are being studied for the building up of the Kahalgaon Thermal Power Plant with Soviet assistance. This July, the working group on the power industry examined in Moscow prospects for bilateral cooperation in this field. The sides noted that the construction of big hydropower stations in different parts of India, the Bakreshwar Thermal Power Plant in West Bengal, and high-voltage power lines could become a new sphere of mutually advantageous cooperation.

In the years to come, Soviet and Indian experts will continue seismic prospecting for oil and gas in West Bengal and also all-round exploration in the Cauvery oil-bearing areas in North Cambay.

Three dozen idle and low-productivity oil wells have been repaired in India in recent years with Soviet assistance. As a result, each of these wells additionally produced 350,000 tons of oil annually. This useful work will continue.

The USSR and India are constantly extending cooperation in the coal industry. Major coal pits and mines are built with the use of modern technology and equipment. New coal dressing plants are built and old ones modernised. Joint geological prospecting is being carried out.

Electronics and computers are also new and promising fields of Soviet-Indian cooperation. The two countires have, of late, extended their trade in electronic industry products. Three geophysical computer centres of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) are being established in India with Soviet assistance. The centres are provided with up-to-date Soviet computers. Possibilities are studied for the building of yet another three such centres. Production cooperation in the field of computer technology and the elaboration of various personal computers has also fine prospects.

The USSR and India continue cooperation in communications, irrigation, agriculture, science, and technology. The promising fields of bilateral research include solar power engineering, MHD energy conversion, powder metallurgy, metal protection from corrosion, biotechnology, lasers, etc.

Trade and economic relations between the two countries are steadily developing and acquiring new forms. Soviet enterprises and Indian state-owned and private firms and corporations have recently been intensively developing production cooperation in mechanical engineering.

There are broad possibilities for production cooperation in other industries as well. Long-term production cooperation in various branches makes it possible for the Soviet and Indian economies to complement each other.

The sides will develop such new forms of cooperation as Indian organisations' participation in the construction of civil and industrial projects in the USSR and third countries. Thus, Indian companies will take part in the building of three hotels in Tashkent, Samarkand, and Bukhara.

This and other problems of bilateral cooperation were discussed at the 10th session of the Intergovernment Soviet-Indian Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation in April, 1986.

Soviet-Indian trade is developing dynamically. The long-term programme of March 14, 1979 provided for raising bilateral trade 1.5-2 times. But already in 1981-1985 it increased more than 2.5 times as against the previous five-year period. There are all grounds to believe that in the future, the growth rates will be as high.

The Soviet-Indian Friendship Treaty provided a solid basis for the development of long-term cooperation. New major agreements on mutually beneficial cooperation till 2000 were signed during Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit to the USSR in May 1985.

Proceeding from these tasks, the Intergovernmental Soviet-Indian Commission is working out a new long-term programme of cooperation till 2000, which means that the two friendly nations will continue developing many-sided mutually advantageous ties.

Commentary on Benefits of Cooperation With USSR

BK141541 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 14 Aug 86

[Commentary by K.S. Ramamurty on Indian-Soviet ties]

[Text] The 15th anniversary of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation helps to remind us of the multifaceted nature of the relationship between India and the Soviet Union. A solid basis for it was laid by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru in the 50's leading smoothly to enduring economic and cultural ties. One remembers with nostalgia and excitement in India in the 50's and the 60's when the Soviet Union extended its hand of

cooperation in building the firm foundation for the growth of heavy industry and for economic independence.

The economic relations took a giant leap forward after the signing of the treaty on the 9th of August in 1971. Today there is hardly any important field of economic activity in India in which the Soviet Union had not lent a helping hand. During the period of Indo-Soviet cooperation spread over 3 decades, some 60 major industrial and other economic projects have been built or commissioned in India with Soviet help. Some 30 projects are being built or designed. These projects account for about a third of India's production of steel as well as of aluminum, a quarter of its oil production, nearly half the oil-refining industry, about a tenth of the country's production of electric power, and a major share of heavy electrical, metallurgical, and mining equipment.

Presently, the two countries are engaged in collaboration in exploration of oil in the Cambay and Kaveri basins, in the exploitation of coal pits in certain area, besides building the Visakhapatnam steel plant complex in the east coast. The Bhilai steel plant, the first major Soviet assited project in India, is to be modernized.

Indo-Soviet collaboration in space science has placed India among the very few countries which have the technological competence to manufacture and launch rockets into space. This collaboration began as long ago as 1963 when meteorological rockets were blasted off from fishing village of Thumba near Trivandrum. Later, Indian satellites Aryabhata, Bhaskar I, and Bhaskar II boomed into space from Soviet cosmodromes. Indo-Soviet collaboration in space exploration reached its glorious moment in April 1984 when an Indian cosmonaut, Rakesh Sharma, joined a Soviet space team in Soyuz T-11 and carried out experiments in space medicine, metallurgical engineering, remote sensing and others.

There was a time when India was in deep trouble because it could not buy capital goods for industrialization for want of foreign exchange. The Soviet Union came to the rescue with the idea of the rupee payment system, when has been a boon to India. Since then the trade between India and the Soviet Union has risen several folds. For instance, during the sixth 5-year trade agreement ending in 1985, the volume of Indo-Soviet trade was 2½ times what it was during the previous 5 years ending 1980. The sale of manufactured items in India's exports to the Soviet Union is about 60 percent as against the 30 percent share claimed by manufactured items in the country's overall export trade.

Indo-Soviet cooperation reaches every major field of economic activity — agriculture, irrigation, communications, science and technology, oil prospecting and refining, thermal power generation, metallurgy, and others. Electronics and computers are opening up new promising field of Indo-Soviet cooperation. The two countries have recently extended their trade to products of the electronic industry. Three geophysical computer centers of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission are being established with Soviet assistance.

Indeed, Indo-Soviet cooperation in diverse fields has played a large part laying the basis for India's entry into the 21st century.

Further Reportage on Situation in New Delhi, Punjab

Bharatiya Janata Party Holds Demonstration

BK181307 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] The Bharatiya Janata Party held a demonstration in New Delhi today against the killing of the former army chief, General A.S. Vaidya. According to police sources, over 1,000 persons were taken into custody and later released.

Police Raid 'Terrorist' Hideouts

BK190318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Aug 86

[Text] In Punjab, the police conducted raids on some terrorist hideouts in Ludhiana and Gurdaspur Districts last night. A number of arms including a sten gun were recovered. An official spokesman said the raids were conducted on information provided by the notorious terrorist Tarsem Singh Kohar during interrogation.

Four persons were injured when two suspected terrorists opened indiscriminate fire in Guru Nanek Park in Ludhiana late last night. The spokeman said the victims belong to both [Sikh and Hindu] communities.

Ban on Mizo National Front Withdrawn

BK181703 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] The Center has lifted the ban on the Mizo National Front [MNF] and other allied organizations with immediate effect.

The government today cancelled the notification issued in January this year extending the ban on them. These organizations were declared unlawful under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act in 1967. The government took the decision to end the ban following communication from Mr Laldenga that the MNF has discarded its so-called constitution and abrogated the declaration of independence of Mizoram of March 1966. He also informed the Center that the article of association of the MNF has been amended so that it conforms to the law of the land.

Further on Opposition, Police Clashes in Sind, Punjab

Opposition Sources on Violence

BK181419 Hong Kong AFP in English 1408 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] Karachi, Pakistan, Aug 18 (AFP) — Seven people were reported killed in triangular clashes among police, members of the ruling Pakistan Muslim League (PML) and opposition demonstrators demanding the release of their jailed leader, Benazir Bhutto, opposition sources said here Monday.

Members of Miss Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and the PML clashed at several places in southern Sind Province as the opposition launched a nation-wide movement against the government. the PPP sources said.

Three persons were reported dead in an exchange of fire between the PPP and PML supporters in the town of Shahdadpur, but there was no police confirmation. A PPP supported died when police fired on a violent anti-government demonstration in Sakrand town, and another three were killed in clashes in Karachi Sunday night, the opposition said.

Official sources said opposition demonstrators opened a canal running through the town of Qazi Ahmad, flooding a national highway. They said mobs chanting anti-government and pro-Bhutto slogans attacked railway stations in several towns in Sind, Miss Bhutto's home province. Trains on the Karachi-Larkana line were stopped as mobs damaged track and burned rail ties. Official sources said two freight trains were derailed Sunday night on the Hyderabad-Mirpur Khas line as anti-government rioters removed parts of the track.

In this port city, two persons injured in police firing Sunday died in hospital Sunday night, and a third person, hit by a tear gas grenade, also died, hospital sources said.

Violence was reported continuing in several towns in Sind. Mobs reportedly looted and burnt banks in Kotri and Matiari 96 miles north of Karachi, and police dispersed them by firing tear gas shells. A general strike was being observed in Karachi's Liari slums, where demonstrators set fire to buses after police dispersed them to prevent a public rally that was to be held in in defiance of an official ban.

The clashes broke out in Liari last week after Miss Bhutto, 33, was jailed for 30 days after making an independence day speech on Thursday in defiance of a ban on political gatherings. The previous day, authorities had rounded up scores of opposition activists, in the first crackdown since martial law was lifted at the end of the year.

2 Policemen Killed in Hyderabad

BK181727 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate, Hyderabad, today says a crowd of about 200 persons, armed, tried to blockade the road at Hissani Mouri near Tando Jam this morning and attacked a police party which tried to stop them from doing so. As a result of the clash, two policemen died and one received injuries. A case has been registered and 12 persons have been arrested.

Sind Schools To Reopen 2 Sep

BK181538 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] It has been officially announced in Karachi today that all the universities, colleges, and schools, including federally administered and private institutions in Sind, will be reopened on 2d of next month.

Official Statement on Violence

BK190303 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Aug 86

[Text] An official statement issued in Karachi last night says the demonstrations started due to ban on political rallies on independence day have now created law and order problems in all of Sind Province. Miscreants, wherever they found the opportunity, tried to set fire to public property and attempted to create disturbances and obstacles at [words indistinct] places including telecommunications system.

The statement says fishplates of railway lines were removed from at least three places in efforts to derail trains. Chamba police station was also set on fire and one person was killed. Tando Allahyar-Mir Wah canal was breached and damaged. An agriculture building was badly damaged at Udero Lal in Nawabshah, and the grid station in Qazi Ahmad was attacked.

The statement adds that processions were held in Savon and Dadu. One person was killed in Dadu and the Dadu railway station was badly damaged. One person was killed in a clash between two groups of people in Sukkur. One bus was set on fire in Mirpur Matelo. A bank branch was set on fire in Mir Wah in Khairpur District.

The statement says two persons were killed in clashes in the Liari area of Karachi. A crowd attacked a police station in (Chancer Gots) and burned tires to obstruct traffic. Miscreants also tried to set two petrol pumps on fire but the pumps were saved.

Iranian Foreign Minister Begins Official Visit

BK190322 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Aug 86

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Islamabad last night on an official visit to Pakistan. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan welcomed him at the airport.

In a brief statement, Dr Velayati expressed happiness at the visit to fraternal Pakistan and said this will strengthen relations between the two countries.

He said during his two rounds of talks with Sahabzada Yaqub Khan he will discuss bilateral, regional, and international issues.

It is expected that the Iranian foreign minister will also call on the acting president, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo.

THE MUSLIM Views Geneva Talks With DRA

BK171205 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 10 Aug 86 p 4

[Editorial: "After Geneva: The Road to Nowhere"]

[Text] Predictably, the seventh round of UN-sponsored talks on the Afghanistan problem in Geneva have reached a dead-end. Even prior to their resumption on July 31 after the suspension in May, statements from both sides had clearly indictated that a very wide gulf still existed between the two sides on certain vital issues. These focus on the question of a time-frame of Soviet withdrawal as well as the modalities of the pullout of 120,000 troops of the Red Army from wartorn Afghanistan. A combination of circumstances seems to have ensured that prospects for an early political settlement in Afghanistan are receding. These include an absurdly long time-frame by the Soviet-Afghan side, stridently anti-Soviet rhetoric from Pakistan, increased diplomatic and military support from Washington to the Afghan mujahidin and uncertainty surrounding the future course of the Iran-Iraq war. Coupled with this is the fact that both sides in the Afghan conflict are militarily not in a position to overwhelm the other.

There are two basic realities linked with the ultimate resolution of the Afghan conflict. The presence of one Superpower force in Afghanistan and the insistence by Moscow that Washington be a guarantor to any final settlement ensures that the other Superpower, more or less, has veto power over any settlement. Additionally, Washington's stakes go beyond the 500 million dollars supplied annually by the CIA via covert operations to the Afghan mujahidin. Whether it exercises this veto directly or indirectly through Pakistan is not important. What is important is that Superpower imperatives can override regional concerns or national interests of countries such as Pakistan. Secondly, an aspect which does not form part of the agenda of the Geneva talks but which is perhaps central to its final settlement is the question of the form of Government in Kabul following the Soviet withdrawal. In this all-important question the interests of the Kabul regime headed by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) as well as those of its armed opponents within the country will have to be taken into consideration.

These aspects apart, the time has come for important political decisions to be taken in Islamabad, Kabul and Moscow: whether to allow the Geneva talks to drag on without any light at the end of the tunnel. In the absence of the necessary political will which can really force a decision, we would venture to state that there can be two possibilities regarding any Afghan settlement in the near future. Either the Geneva process will simply wither away, the commendable efforts of Senior Diego Cordovez notwithstanding. The issue will then be placed on the agenda of the Superpower Summit later in the year to be resolved in the Big Two's wheeling-dealing manner. The other possibility would be to have a sincere effort towards a grand national reconciliation in Afghanistan with talks directly being held between the Kabul regime and the resistance to it within Afghanistan. These could later on be joined by Pakistan and the Soviet Union. The logic of events should be clear: If there is no regional solution to the Afghanistan conflict, it will, by default, have to be resolved at the Superpower level. The interest of the region and those of countries like Pakistan could suffer seriously in such a situation.

For Pakistan, which has been bearing the brunt of the Afghanistan crisis by hosting three million refugees, willingly serving as "frontline state" and facing increasing violations of its border from the other side, the time has come to formulate a policy on Afghanistan which is rooted in the realities of its internal situation and its own geo-political compulsions. The Government must face up to the fact that its Afghan policy has little credibility within the country. It is largely perceived as aimlessly pursuing America's Afghan war whose ultimate fallout will be on the Afghan and Pakistani people. More importantly, such a policy only operates in a vacuum or a concocted official cocoon of secrecy where facts and realities are hidden from the Pakistani people and we are led up the garden path through such time-worn verbiage as "principles and national security".

Our Afghan policy has to stop serving as an extension of our American connection, has to reflect popular aspirations and project a world-wide image that is made in Pakistan rather than one that has blessings of distant godfathers. The Foreign Office must stop telling Pakistanis that "we have no options" and it should be prepared to answer difficult, but important questions. How would Pakistan respond if the time-table given by the Soviets and Afghans was shortened to, say, 12 or 18 months? How will Pakistan cope with increased incursions into its territory from across the Durand line, or bomb-blasts in its major cities? What is Pakistan's policy towards the Afghan mujahidin, particularly the question of setting up a government-in-exile? Let the Government stop fudging issues and let it come out clearly with a formulation on Afghanistan that takes into account Pakistan's national interest as well as those of the region we live in.

SRI LANKA

Further Reportage on Efforts To Resolve Ethnic Issue

Tamil Leaders Arrive in New Delhi

BK180910 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] Leaders of some Sri Lankan Tamil militant groups have arrived in New Delhi to resume discussions with the Indian officials on the ethnic issue in the island. Their discussions will center round the latest development on the Sri Lanka Government proposals to solve the issue.

The resumption of talks between the Tamil militant groups and the central leaders assume significance in view of some progress made in Colombo during the talks between the Tamil United Liberation Front and the Sri Lankan Government.

TULF on Continuation of Talks

BK181142 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] The second round of talks between the government and TULF [Tamil United Liberation Front] on the ethnic crisis will resume next Thursday. TULF leader, A. Amirthalingam, told the SLBC [Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation] that a decision with regard to the continuation of talks would be taken on Friday [22 August]. He said that his delegation would leave for India after talks on Friday and return to the island if a decision was taken to resume the talks thereafter.

Mr Amirthalingam declined to comment on the progress of the talks so far held between his party and the government.

AFP: Several Die in Renewed Tamil Violence

BK181407 Hong Kong AFP in English 1357 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] Colombo, Aug 18 (AFP) — At least six people have been killed in renewed violence involving Tamil separatists in northern Sri Lanka, military and security sources said Monday.

Separatists had fired mortars and small arms at an army working party at camp at Velvettithurai on the northern tip of the Jaffna peninsula Sunday, a military spokesman said. The soldiers fired back, killing three separatists.

Later Sunday, separatists fired at the bank complex near Jaffna Fort, where troops are billeted, killing a soldier on guard duty at the bank, the spokesman said.

A helicopter patrol near the Elephant Pass in northern Sri Lanka blew up a loaded tractor being driven by armed separatists Saturday, security sources said Monday. The separatists opened fire as the helicopter approached, and the tractor blew up when the helicopter returned the fire. All those on the tractor were killed, the sources said, but did not give a figure.

Security forces found the bodies of two Tamils and Sinhalese tied to lamposts in Kalmunai Monday, security sources said. A placard placed near the bodies said that they had been killed by the People's Liberation Organaisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE), one of several Tamil separatist organisations waging a bloody campaign for greater autonomy in the north and east of the country.

Diplomatic sources said that India, which backs Sri Lankan Government proposals for a political settlement of the conflict, had warned Tamil guerrilla groups to refrain from launching attacks on troops and civilians while peace talks were under way here.

The government and the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), the main Tamil political party, opened a second round of talks on Friday and adjourned until Thursday after three days of negotiations.

India had summoned the leaders of the Tamil groups based in Madras, southern India, for talks with Indian officials about Sri Lanka's peace proposals, diplomatic sources said.

A group of 18 Tamil refugees who fled to India in 1983 to escape the ethnic violence returned Sunday, security sources said Monday. They had reported to the base army commander after landing at Talaimannar in the northwest and arrangements were being made to resettle them in their old homes in Mannar.

Car Bomb Explosion in Central Tehran Kills 20

LD191115 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Aug 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, at 0810 (local time) today, a 50-lb bomb exploded on the northeastern side of Ferdowsi Square in Tehran, placed in a Zhiyan [Citroen Dyane] by American agents.

The explosion resulted in 20 martyrs and several injured. Also, four passenger cars caught fire and a 305 bus of the Vahed Company and a number of nearby shops and building received major and minor damage.

Opposition Group Denies Bombing

LD191349 Kuwait KUNA in English 1234 GMT 19 Aug 86

[Text] London, Aug 19 (KUNA) — The Iranian opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq organization Tuesday vigorously condemned the car bomb blast which killed at least twenty people in Tehran this morning, and blamed the explosion and a series of similar incidents recently on the ruling regime.

"We have nothing to do with such acts of terrorism, we have always condemned them and continue to condemn them", a spokesman for the organization said in a statement to KUNA in London.

The spokesman, whose group seeks the overthrow of the regime in Tehran and an end to the Iraq-Iran war, also denied "categorically" any connection with two other bomb attacks which targeted civilians in Iran earlier in the month.

He said the blasts were probably the result of "infighting" among the authorities and the "deadlock" which faced them, both economically and politically as a result of mounting internal discontent and the continuing six-year-old war with neighbouring Iraq.

The Mojahedin spokesman suggested that the blasts, which the Iranian government has blamed on "agents of imperialism", could be designed as a pretext for launching a new wave of internal repression against government critics and opponents.

"It is no coincidence that there have been three such explosions harming innocent civilians in the last ten days", he said. "It appears that the regime is going to start a new wave of mass executions, and is preparing the ground to accuse its victims of being responsible for terrorist acts", he said.

Montazeri Marks 'Id-e Qorban; Views Qom Bombing

LD171355 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Aug 86

[Excerpts] Congratulating everyone on the occasion of the blessed 'Id-e Qorban and wishing prosperity and happiness for all Muslims and the compatriots, Ayatollah Montazeri stated: According to our traditions, the immaculate imams — peace be upon them — categorized the people into four groups: The first group is the one which is blessed both in this life as well as the next, such as the group which has enough to live on in this world and also adheres to its religious tenets. This is the group which does not experience any war, revolution, and similar events during its life span. This group enjoys happiness both in this world and the next.

Then there is another group, the group which enjoys the pleasures of this life, but is deprived of the blessing of the next, such as kings, oppressors, and individuals who achieve power, wealth and certain ranks. These people rule and enjoy life for a short period, but achieve nothing in the next world but adversity. The third group is the one which enjoys everything in the next life, but is deprived of all the pleasures of this life. The majority of this group consists of faithful and devoted individuals. They have nothing to show so far as wealth and worldly comforts are concerned. [passage omitted]

Referring to the second group, he noted: Today, Islam and the Muslims are encumbered with this second group. Note the blows so far dealt Islam and the Koran by the heads of Islamic states and the royal court mullahs who support their rule. According to our own traditions, the Prophet is reported to have said that there are two groups of people who, if corrupted, would also corrupt my ummah, but if they are honest the Islamic ummah would also become pious and achieve salvation. These two groups are the princes and the jurisconsults. Today, all the problems facing the Islamic ummah, as well as the suffering and hardship they have endured from Zionism and the enemies of Islam, stem from the existence of corrupt princes and jurisconsults.

Take the issue of oil, the oil which is being plundered by the heads of Islamic countries. If it were used in the interest of the Islamic ummah then the enemies of Islam could never burden the Muslims with a bunch of Zionists or, additionally, spend all material and military facilities of a great many Arab states, including those of Egypt, in keeping the jingoistic Saddam in power for a few more days in order to commit more crimes. Instead they could use them to fight the usurping Israel. They are doing this in order to prolong the war against Iran.

Continuing his remarks, he said: The fourth group is the one which has neither this world nor the next, or, as it were, is deprived of both this world and the next. [passage omitted]

In another part of his speech, stating that positions and ranks are imaginary and subjective matters, Ayatollah Montazeri referred to the famous statement made by Imam 'Ali, which he himself had quoted in a letter addressed to the governor general of Azerbayjan to the effect that posts and positions are duties entrusted by God. He then said: Pity the man who would resort to self-deception and enslave himself by posts and worldly positions, be it for himself or for others. Such an individual should also be pitied if he makes any great effort in order to achieve them.

In this connection, he added: God be my witness: When my name was raised by the Assembly of Experts [appointing Montazeri as Khomeyni's successor], followed by telegrams, letters and notes of greetings from inside and outside the country, I felt psychologically apprehensive. Although, according to custom and etiquette,

I should have responded to these letters and telegrams, expressing my gratitude, nevertheless I said to myself: When a heavy responsibility is entrusted to an individual there is no need for any congratulations; rather, condolences would be more appropriate. Having said that, I do apologise for having failed to respond. I always beseech God Almighty to grant a long life and perfect health to his eminence the imam, so that the question [of succession] would never arise.

Continuing his remarks, Ayatollah Montazeri referred to the recent explosion caused by deviate groups in Qom, stating: Once again I advise the misled members of these minigroups, who embody the true meaning of the fourth group I mentioned earlier — you people have already lost your personality and independence. [passage indistinct]

Today, you are trapped by these misguided groups; the groups whose leaders are engaged in revelry and mischievousness abroad. They are engaged in collaborating with U.S. imperialism and Zionism, the two forces these people once opposed. What I say to these people is this: If you misguided individuals are unhappy with me, a simple mullah; if you believe I have not acted properly, then why are you treating Islam, the revolution, and your own oppressed people in such a manner? What do you gain by killing women, children, workers and shopkeepers? You gain nothing; you lose, on the day of judgment, your religion, conscience, and everything else for the sake of a few corrupt and wicked individuals ruling you.

He then emphasised: I have personally experienced this. Whenever our officials intend to make decisions for the improvement of prisons or to grant amnesty to penitent prisoners, some such explosions and terrorism are perpetrated in order to create an atmosphere of hostility, thus preventing the officials from taking any action. This would provide their leaders with propaganda material about situations in prisons and conditions of prisoners. In this way, they would prevent the revolution proceeding along its path and giving stability to society.

I remind these misguided individuals to give some thought to their action: Cut your losses; it is in your own interest. Do not deprive yourselves of both this world and the next for the sake of somebody else's carnal desires, simply because he wants, as it were, to rule over these people.

Prisoners Pardoned on 'Id al-Adha Holiday

LD181702 Tehran IRNA in English 1623 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] Zahedan, Baluchestan va Sistan Prov,. Aug 18, IRNA — Some 65 prisoners were pardoned here Saturday on the occasion of the Muslim feast of 'Id al-Adha, and the prison-terms of another 589 prisoners were commuted upon Imam Khomeyni's recommendation.

During a ceremony Imam Khomeyni's representative and Friday prayers leader of Zahedan, provincial governor general and prosecutor of the Islamic Revolution Court talked about programs to rehabilitate prisoners and ways to improve their condition.

Syrian Foreign Minister Arrives With Al-Asad Message

JN191437 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 19 Aug 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' arrived in Tehran this afternoon on a brief visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran. He was received at Tehran International Airport by Mohammad 'Ali Besharati, under secretary of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, ministry senior officials, and the Syrian Arab Embassy staff in Tehran.

Al-Shar' made a statement to reporters saying he is carrying a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i dealing with recent developments in the region, as well as issues of mutual interest. The minister added his visit falls within the framework of holding consulations and exchanging viewpoints between officials in Syria and Iran on all issues of interest to progressive states in the world.

For his part, Besharati, in a statement to reporters, expressed satisfaction over the development of friendly relations between Syria and Iran. He said Al-Shar' 's visit falls within the framework of coordinating the two countries' stands toward issues of mutual interest, particularly the forthcoming meeting of nonaligned countries in Harare.

Greek Government Criticized for Iraqi Arms Deal

LD181630 Tehran IRNA in English 1515 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] London, Aug. 18, IRNA — Greece's ruling Panhellenic Socialists (PASOK) was accused Sunday of selling ammunition to the Ba'thist regime in Iraq, according to reports reaching London.

The opposition New Democracy Party condemned the Greek Government for selling 100,000 15-mm artillery shells, valued at $19 million, to Iraq last April to help the war it launched against Iran.

As a result of the sale, it was alleged that the Greek defence was greatly weakened at a time of increased tension between Greece and Turkey in the Aegean.

The Greek prime minister, Andreas Papandreou was said to have commended the latest cry from Iraq's ruler Saddam Husayn for an apparent end to the war he is waging against Iran.

The correspondent of *The Times* newspaper of London said the disclosure of the arms sale "casts a bizarre light" on Papandreou's appeal for a peaceful settlement of the Iraq-Iran conflict.

Deputy Foreign Minister Denies 'Sealed Border' Rumor

LD171048 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT 17 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 17, IRNA — The Foreign Ministry deputy for consular and cultural affairs, Javad Mansuri, here Sunday categorically denied rumors concerning travel restrictions.

Speaking to IRNA he said that a handful of opportunist elements by spreading such rumors intend to encourage those Iranians who long for the cultural values of the former regime, to leave the country. In order to attain their objectives, Mansuri added, these elements are spreading such rumors.

Mansuri denied rumors that due to prolongation of the Iraqi-imposed war Western countries will accept Iranian citizens and said that such claims were totally unfounded.

On rumors that the Islamic Republic of Iran will seal off its borders, Mansuri said "there is no reason for such a measure." He stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran respects international laws and there is no restrictions on travels abroad.

Mansuri attributed such rumors to enemies of the Islamic revolution of Iran and added that reports on living conditions of some Iranians abroad indicated that they were living in unpleasant situation. [as received]

The Foreign Ministry official once again stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran fully respects prestige of its citizens. He also stated that those Iranians abroad with no severe offenses could return to Iran.

Foreign Minister Comments on African Tour

NC150752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Aug 86

[Text] IRNA reports that Foreign Minister Velayati returned to Tehran at midnight last night after touring eight African countries and taking part in the Geneva disarmament conference.

Upon arrival in Tehran, the foreign minister spoke to correspondents about the outcome of this trip, noting: In the course of my visit to eight African countries, five of which I was seeing for the first time, broad agreement was reached on Africa's problems and on expanding bilateral relations. The question of racism now tops the list of Africa's problems and, fortunately, the African states are fighting it with a unity of views and great determination.

Mr Velayati added: Racism was discussed and strongly condemned at the OAU meeting in Addis Ababa. The African countries also agreed unanimously to place South Africa under economic siege, which reflects their intention to resolve this matter.

Mr Velayati explained: The visit to Morocco by the prime minister of the regime occupying Palestine, the Saharan question, and the African countries' economic problems and debts to the industrialized nations were among the other subjects examined during our bilateral talks.

The foreign minister had this to say about the outcome of the UN disarmament conference in Geneva: Iran is one of the 40 permanent members of the disarmament conference, and has done much in recent years to achieve its objectives. He added: In my speech at this meeting, I discussed the repeated deployment of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime. This last occurred during the battles for Mehran, and I presented documented proof of this to the conference. The United Nations and the Geneva meeting were also asked to condemn Iraq and find solutions.

Mr Velayati declared: In addition, we raised the question of using satellites for intelligence and military purposes. A clear example of that was the role played by U.S. satellites in the imposed war. They provided the Iraqi regime with military information on us, and we called on the conference to study this. We also asked that the necessary agreements and conventions be approved so that the deployment of satellites by the developed countries will not threaten the security of others.

Briefs Cabinet on Tour

LD171215 Tehran IRNA in English 1200 GMT 17 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 17, IRNA — Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati reported to the Cabinet ministers on the outcome of his recent 8-nation African tour, in their session Sunday.

The report referred to the deprivation of African people, crimes imperialism was committing in that continent, and similar stands taken by those countries and the Islamic Republic of Iran in fighting against imperialism and colonialism.

Foreign Minister Velayati also informed the Cabinet of the measures carried out to promote Iran's cultural, economic and political relations with these countries.

The Cabinet also heard a report on participation of Iranian delegation in the Disarmament Conference and Iran's call for a serious condemnation of Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons.

The Iranian delegation also warned the conference against countries which were threatening national security of other states through using satellites, especially those in the Third World.

Velayati Meets With President; Departs for Pakistan

LD181626 Tehran IRNA in English 1611 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug 18, IRNA — Foreign Minister Dr Velayati met with President Khamene'i here Monday and presented a report on his recent visits to the African Countries as well as on the Geneva disarmament talks.

During the meeting President Khamene'i briefed the Iranian foreign minister on certain points relevant to the latter's visit to Pakistan and India this week.

Dr Velayati left Tehran for Pakistan later Monday. His visits to the two countries is mainly in relation with the upcoming non-aligned summit meet in Harare.

Prime Minister Addresses Construction Jihad Members

LD151253 Tehran IRNA in English 1145 GMT 15 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 15, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Thursday that faith of the Iranian people is

what has caused them to become victorious in their unequal fight with the U.S. The prime minister said that if the power of a country depends on its equipped armed forces and sophisticated weapons the U.S. should have defeated the Islamic revolution of Iran since it became triumphant in 1979. Musavi made the remarks in his speech to a group of relatives of martyrs as well as members of combat battalions of construction jihad.

Musavi, lauding members of the jihad for their high spirit of devotion, said that the way they have chosen to serve the Islamic revolution has placed them in the center of the fight against the enemy (Iraqi regime). The extensive presence of the jihad members at the war fronts is evidence of their determination to fight enemies of Islam, Musavi said.

The premier said that activities of the jihad in rural areas, war fronts and in government organizations have been so significant and devoted that its impacts will remain in history of the Islamic revolution for ever.

Commentary on Turkish Attack Against Iraqi Kurds

NC180941 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group: "The Turkish Air Force Attack on Iraqi Kurdistan"]

[Excerpts] The Turkish Air Force recently launched an aggressive attack deep inside Iraqi territory in the north. This incident has been the topic for much discussion in political circles. [passage omitted]

In the wake of this 15-minute attack, Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal stated that it would be repeated if necessary. He recalled that Iraq had been subjected to Turkish air attacks before. The Turkish Government's operations within Iraqi territory were carried out in accordance with a bilateral agreement signed in Ankara on 14 October 1984, nearly 2 years ago. According to this agreement, the armed forces of these two countries are permitted to go as far as 10 km inside each other's territory in order to take action to weed out their Kurdish opponents along their 280 km common border.

Considering the Iraqi regime's position with regard to the northern regions of the country, this agreement is tantamount to official recognition of foreign intervention in Iraq's internal affairs. It should be recalled that the Islamic Republic of Iran castigated this agreement as soon as it was signed, interpreting it as an overt violation of the Iraqi people's rights. The past 2 years have witnessed a peak in conflicts with the country's Kurds. During this time, the Turkish Government has disseminated numerous reports on armed clashes in the southeastern provinces. [passage omitted]

In view of the fact that martial law has been extended in five of Turkey's eastern provinces, it appears that the peaceful conditions necessary for the abrogation of martial law have not been achieved in these areas as they have been in other provinces. Iraq, the second signatory to this agreement, has reported more tension in its northern Kurdish-majority areas than before. According to figures from international agencies, the Iraqi regime has recently arrested 300 youths in Al-Sulaymaniyah ranging from 10 to 14 years of age. The reason given for this action was differences with local municipal officials. In addition to this, the city of (Mengik), which is an important Kurd-inhabited city, was occupied by the regime's opponents for 2 days. [sentence as heard]

Amnesty International issued an official communique last week asking for a halt to the execution of Iraqi youths. The communique stated that 21 of those arrested in Al-Sulaymaniyah and Irbil have been the victims of execution squads. The reason behind Iraq's arrest and execution of these people was to exact revenge for the unsuccessful attempt on the life of the Irbil governor by Kurdish guerrillas. In any case, reports of clashes, genocide, bombing, and massacre of the oppressed Kurds of Iraq by the Iraqi regime seem to be increasing these days.

In view of the present situation, it appears that the $1.5 million debt which Iraq owes Turkey, a debt which is a major economic problem for the Baghdad regime, was the primary factor behind the regime's consent to foreign intervention in Iraqi internal affairs. The importance of the Iraqi pipeline, which passes through Kurdish inhabited areas to the Mediterranean and which provides a source of (?irritation) to the Iraqi Kurds, has also increased the importance of the October 1984 treaty.

The persistent struggle of the Kurds in the northern provinces daily erodes the Baghdad regime's influence in this area and enhances the need for foreign forces. Turkish newspapers have also alluded to this possibility in the past, noting that Turkish forces have crushed antiregime Kurds on Iraqi soil.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,566

LD171633 Tehran IRNA in English 1629 GMT 17 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug 17, IRNA — Iraqi forces incurred substantial casualties and losses when their positions were pounded by Iranian artillery throughout the fronts on Saturday, said the 2,566th military communique released by the joint staff of the armed forces here Sunday.

The communique said that several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and one munitions dump, six gun emplacements and observation posts and three vehicles of theirs destroyed in Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts when their positions were shelled by Iranian forces Saturday.

Over the same period, the communique said, Iranian artillery pounded Iraqi positions in Chazzabeh, southern fronts killing or wounding 15 enemy soldiers. Elsewhere in the southern fronts, parts of Iraqi positions were set ablaze by Iranian Gendarmerie forces.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in the northwestern fronts Saturday raging somewhat more heavily in Panjwin as a result of which movement of Iraqi motorized columns were either halted or disturbed, the communique said.

According to the communique, a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and one enemy truck and parts of their positions and supply routes devastated in Piranshahr, Sardasht and Marivan operational theaters Saturday as they were subjected to Iranian artillery fire.

The joint staff communique furthermore said that Iranian forces shelled an Iraqi armoured unit in Sumar, western fronts, Saturday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on it. In areas overlooking Mehran, Iraqi infantry units were prevented from fortifying their positions.

Muslim forces of Iran opened fire on two Iraqi patrol boats in west of Jofeyr operational theater Saturday forcing them to flee, the communique said.

Elsewhere, the communique said that Iraqi engineering operations on heights near Sardasht and in Nahre-Anbar were checked on Saturday.

Iraqi Casualties 17-18 Aug

LD181618 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, Aug. 18, IRNA — At least 16 Iraqi soldiers were killed, six group bunkers destroyed and two vehicles damaged in the western fronts on Sunday and Monday.

During the said period artillery fire of Iranian combatants also halted relocation of the Iraqi troops.

Casualties in South Detailed

LD181740 Tehran IRNA in English 1734 GMT 18 Aug 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Aug. 18, IRNA — Artillery fire of the Muslim combatants on Iraqi positions near Abu al-Khasib destroyed an observation post, a heavy gun and five bunkers and killed 14 enemy soldiers over Sunday and Monday.

The city of Abadan also came under Iraqi artillery fire over the same period as a result of which several houses were damaged, and two places caught fire.

Communique No 2,567

LD181625 Tehran IRNA in English 1617 GMT 18 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 18, IRNA — At least 30 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and eight enemy bunkers, four military vehicles, and one munitions dump destroyed in parts of the southern fronts Sunday when they were shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces, said a military communique here Monday.

Joint Staff Communique number 2567 said that Iran's Navy intercepted and inspected four cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Sunday but allowed the ships to continue voyage after being satisfied that they were not carrying any war-related goods for Iraq.

Iranian forces opened heavy artillery and mortar fire on Iraqi positions in the western fronts Sunday killing or wounding some Iraqi soldiers and destroying six enemy bunkers and two military vehicles, the communique said.

The military communique said that Iraqi warplanes attempting to violate the airspace of the western operational theaters were forced to flee by heavy Iranian anti-aircraft fire.

Over the same period, an Iraqi motor pool in western front of Marivan incurred considerable losses when it was heavily pounded by Iranian artillery fire, said the communique.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique said, parts of Iraqi positions and observation posts were devastated and enemy fire silenced as a result of artillery duels with Iranian forces on Sunday.

Muslim forces of Iran reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions and supply routes in the southern fronts Sunday inflicting casualties and losses on Iraqi forces. The exchange of artillery fire in these fronts raged more heavily in Talaiyeh, Kushk and Zayd, according to the communique.

In Nahre-Anbar, the communique said, an Iraqi armoured unit was pouned by Iranian artillery Sunday and elsewhere in areas overlooking Al-Faw enemy tank fire was silenced, the communique said.